

## Legislative Bulletin.....March 8, 2005

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### Summary of the Bills Under Consideration Today:

**Total Number of New Government Programs:** 0

**Total Cost of Discretionary Authorizations:** Approximately \$9.6 million\*

**Effect on Revenue:** \$0

**Total Change in Mandatory Spending:** \$0

**Total New State & Local Government Mandates:** 0

**Total New Private Sector Mandates:** 0

**Number of Bills Without Committee Reports:** 0

\*A CBO score is not available for H.Res. 133, which extends spending authority for one-month and adds new funding for the new Homeland Security Committee

**H.Res. 133 - Providing amounts from the applicable accounts of the House of Representatives for continuing expenses of standing and select committees of the House from April 1, 2005, through April 30, 2005  
(Ney)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, March 8, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, *as amended*.

**Summary:** H.Res. 133 resolves that “such amounts as may be necessary” shall be available for committees and standing committees for the month of April. The resolution

notes that the funds shall be available “on the same terms and conditions as amounts were available to such committees for the period beginning at noon on January 3, 2005, and ending at midnight on March 31, 2005, pursuant to clause 7 of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives **(or, in the case of the Committee on Homeland Security, on the same terms and conditions as amounts were available to such Committee for such period pursuant to House Resolution 10, agreed to January 4, 2005).**” (The bolded blue text represents the amended version, which accounts for the new permanent Homeland Security Committee)

This resolution is an interim, one-month extension to committee funding at FY04 funding levels that reportedly is necessary due to the Easter recess and the fact that the FY05 committees funding structure is not yet complete. According to the Committee, the funding under this resolution is level funded from the FY04 level. **Because the Homeland Security Committee was not a permanent committee in FY04, the resolution as amended will likely result in an overall increase in monthly funding by including additional funding for the new Homeland Security Committee.**

**Committee Action:** On February 17, 2005 the resolution was introduced and referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce, which took no official action on it.

**Cost to Taxpayers:** A CBO cost estimate is not available. Unofficial estimates provide that the monthly committee funding for FY04 was approximately \$9.5 million. Assuming the Homeland Security Committee receives a little over \$100,000 a month, the resolution would cost approximately \$9.6 million for April 2005.

**Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?:** No

**Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?:** No

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## **H.Res. 122 — Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the study of languages and supporting the designation of a Year of Languages (*Holt*)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, March 8, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

**Summary:** H.Res. 122 has eight findings and resolves that it is the sense of the House of Representatives that:

“(1) the study of languages contributes to the intellectual and social development of a student and the economy and security of the United States;

“(2) there should be a Year of Languages in the United States, during which language study is promoted and expanded in elementary schools, secondary

schools, institutions of higher education, businesses, and government programs;  
and

“(3) the President should issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to--

“(A) encourage and support initiatives to promote and expand the study of languages; and

“(B) observe a Year of Languages with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and other activities.”

**Additional Background:** According to the resolution’s findings, “language education in the 21st century includes a commitment to the study of long sequences of world languages, beginning in early grades and continuing throughout the academic career of an individual, in order to develop the levels of proficiency needed to effectively communicate with people from other cultures at home and abroad.” The American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, it is reported, “is urging the public to support increased language education for students, which will expand the cultural and literary horizons of adult learners and strengthen the position and security of the United States throughout the world.” For additional information on the year go to: <http://www.yearoflanguages.org/i4a/pages/Index.cfm?pageid=3591>

**Committee Action:** On February 17, 2005, the resolution was introduced and referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce, which took no official action on it.

**Cost to Taxpayers:** The resolution has no cost

**Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?:** No

**Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?:** No

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**H.Res.16 — Supporting the goals of National Manufacturing Week,  
congratulating manufacturers and their employees for their  
contributions growth and innovation, and recognizing the challenges  
facing the manufacturing sector (Gillmor)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, March 8, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

**Summary:** H.Res.16 resolves that the House of Representatives:

“(1) supports the goals of National Manufacturing Week;

“(2) congratulates manufacturers and their employees for their ongoing contributions to growth and innovation and for the key role they play in promoting and ensuring a brighter and stronger future for the Nation; and

“(3) recognizes that the manufacturing sector is facing serious, new challenges to its international preeminence which affect prospects for future growth of the United States economy.”

**Additional Background:** According to the resolution’s findings, the National Association of Manufacturers has designated March 7-10, 2005, as National Manufacturing Week. As of press time, it could not be determined if the organizers have officially stated goals that the House is supporting in H.Res. 16, or if the “goals” listed in the resolution refer to the overall idea of the week. For more information see: <http://www.manufacturingweek.com/App/homepage.cfm?moduleid=42&appname=100084>

**Committee Action:** On January 4, 2005 the resolution was introduced and referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, which took no official action on it.

**Cost to Taxpayers:** The resolution has no cost

**Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?:** No

**Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?:** No

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